(b) to (e) In November, 2000 the Government introduced a Bill to amend the AAI Act, 1994 to include an enabling provision for leasing airports of Airports Authority of India. The Department-Related Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism has examined the Bill and tabled the report on 21.11.2002. No firm schedule has been fixed to complete the process.

Profit earned by AI

1952. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has registered a profit during the first half of the current year; and

(b) if so, the amount of profit and the figures of profit of corresponding period last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per provisional estimates, Air India has made a net profit of Rs. 46.79 crores during the first half of the current financial year as compared to net profit of Rs. 12.00 crores during the corresponding period last year.

Eligibility for Haj subsidy

1953. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any kind of subsidy is paid to Haj pilgrims; if so, what are the norms for eligibility;

(b) whether well-off and affluent pilgrims are also extended this benefit; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether such kind of subsidy is also paid to the other Indian pilgrims for pilgrimage abroad; if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Subsidy is given by Government

to only those Haj pilgrims who undertake haj pilgrimage through Central Haj Committee. There is no income criteria at present for selection.

(c) No subsidy is given to other Indian pilgrims for pilgrimage abroad.

Excess fare charged on Mumbai-Delhi Sector

1954. SHRIMATI GURCHARAN KAUR:
SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Senior Citizens' are charged concessional fare on all Indian Airlines flights;

(b) if so, the reasons for Travel Agents charging excess fare on the plea of progressive fare from Mumbai to Delhi; and

(c) what is the concessional fare from Mumbai to Delhi by Indian Airlines and Travel Agents and the action propsoed to be taken to make the Travel Agents refund excess money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Except on the flights operated by Dornier Aircraft, the Senior Citizens' discount is available on all domestic services of Indian Airlines. The fare charged from passengers is the same irrespective of whether the ticket is issued by Indian Airlines directly or by its authorized Travel Agents.

(c) Various fare levels in INR (Including all taxes) between Delhi and Mumbai are as follows:

(in Rs.)

Type of Fare	Fare
Normal	6610
Promotional fare	5905
Sr. Citizen's Discount (on Promotional Fare) applicable only on DEL-BOM-DEL sector	3550
Apex Fare (valid upto 31st March, 2003)	3695